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married Susan Augusta Taft, who with his son Cleveland survives him. Dr. Allen's home life was idyllic and to this inspiration he was wont to attribute the achievements of his later life and the activity of his older years.

With the passing of Dr. Joel Asaph Allen the world has lost an earnest and sincere student, natural science has lost the power of an able pen backed by the searching analysis of level judgment, while his personal friends will mourn the loss of all this and more, for they have known him as a man.

H. E. ANTHONY

AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE DANISH DEEP-SEA EXPEDITION

WE find in *Nature* an account of the Danish Deep-Sea Expedition, which left Copenhagen on August 30 on board the new research steamer *Dana*. It plans to spend about ten months in the temperate and tropical parts of the North Atlantic. The object of the expedition is to carry out deep-sea investigations in accordance with a scheme which was submitted by the leader of the expedition, Dr. Johs. Schmidt, to the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea during their meeting at Copenhagen in July last.

The *Dana*, of the Lord Mersey trawler type, was bought in England by the Danish Government to replace the old research steamer *Thor*, which was sold some years ago. The *Dana* has been equipped for marine research work at the Royal Dockyard, Copenhagen. She has a length of about 140 ft. between perpendiculars, and is 325 tons gross register. She carries a 600-h.p. triple expansion engine, giving her a speed of 9 knots. A large deck-house has been constructed, which contains two laboratories—a larger biological laboratory with accommodation for five workers, and a smaller one for hydrographical work with room for two—together with a mess-room for the scientific staff, and a cabin for the leader of the expedition. Below deck are the cabins of the scientific staff, and store-rooms for the various instruments, fishing gears, collections, etc. The winches are

worked by steam. A big trawl-winch placed forward has two drums, the smaller carrying 4000 meters of steel wire 14 mm. in diameter for trawling at moderate depths, and the larger, carrying 10,000 meters of steel wire tapering from 14 mm. to 7 mm. in diameter, to be used for greater depths. The three winches for vertical hauls (water-bottles, plankton nets, and sounding) are placed on the port side of the ship; one works the Lucas sounding machine and a drum carrying 6,000 meters of phosphor-bronze wire; another is a small hand-winch to be used for the surface layers; and the third works a big drum carrying 10,000 meters of steel wire 4 mm. in diameter. The steel-wire ropes have been supplied by Messrs. Craven and Speeding Bros., Sunderland, and the hydrographical instruments by the Laboratoire Hydrographique, Copenhagen, of which Professor Martin Knudsen is director.

The *personnel* of the expedition is as follows:—Dr. Johs. Schmidt, leader of the expedition; Dr. J. N. Nielsen (Meteorological Institute, Copenhagen), hydrographer; P. Jespersen and A. V. Taaning (Danish Committee for the Study of the Sea); K. Stephensen (Zoological Museum, Copenhagen); J. Olsen (Polytechnic College, Copenhagen), assistant hydrographer. N. C. Anderson, ship's doctor, will also take part in the investigations. Professor C. H. Ostenfeld expects to join the expedition later on during its stay in West Indian waters.

THE FIFTH AVENUE HOSPITAL OF NEW YORK

THE Fifth Avenue Hospital Association is making an urgent plea for contributions to complete the construction of the new building at 105th Street and Fifth Avenue. The institution will combine the present Hahnemann Hospital and the Laura Franklin Free Hospital for Children. Dr. Wiley E. Woodbury, director of the hospital, has made a statement for the *New York Evening Post* in which he says:

There is an enormous waste in the administration of the free ward, which is not realized by any